

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 306038
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S:SVALERGA

APPROVED BY:S/S:SVALERGA

-----130764 230434Z /62

O 230410Z DEC 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 306038

NODIS

FOR Z. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 05792 ACTION SECSTATE DEC 23

QUOTE: S E C R E T USUN 5792

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, US, XF

SUBJECT: WALDHEIM/SAUNDERS CONSULTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST

SUMMARY: IN COURSE OF MEETING WITH INR DIRECTOR SAUNDERS
AND AMB YOUNG ON DECEMBER 22, UN SYG WALDHEIM REQUESTED CLOSE
CONSULTATIONS ON POSSIBLE UPGRADING OF LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION
AT THE CAIRO CONFERENCE. WALDHEIM BELIEVES IT IS IMPORTANT
TO LEAVE OPEN POSSIBILITY OF FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE IN NEW
YORK OR ELSEWHERE AS INTERIM STEP BETWEEN CAIRO CONFERENCE
AND GENEVA. YEMENI PERMREP APPROACHED HIM DECEMBER
16, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH SAUDIS AND OTHERS, TO REQUEST
THAT SYG REPEAT HIS OFFER TO CONVENE FOLLOW-ON MEETING.
WALDHEIM SAID HE WILL TAKE NO ACTION UNTIL CAIRO

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 306038

CONFERENCE IS ENDED. END SUMMARY.

1. INR DIRECTOR SAUNDERS AND AMB YOUNG BRIEFED WALDHEIM
AND UNDER-SECRETARIES-GENERAL URQUHART AND GUYER DECEMBER
22 ON BEGIN'S WASHINGTON VISIT, SADAT'S OBJECTIVES FOR THE
ISMAILIA TALKS AND OUR PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF PROSPECTS
FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. WALDHEIM IN TURN REVIEWED HIS

IMPRESSIONS OF HIS DECEMBER 19 CONSULTATION WITH BEGIN, EXPRESSING HIS CONFIDENCE THAT BASIS NOW EXISTS FOR EGYPT/ISRAEL NEGOTIATIONS ABOUT SINAI, BUT CONSIDERABLE CONCERN ABOUT INSUFFICIENCY OF BEGIN'S PROPOSAL REGARDING THE WEST BANK AND THE PALESTINIANS.

2. WALDHEIM ASKED SAUNDERS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT SADAT'S INTENTION, AS IMPLIED IN PRESS REPORTS, TO UPGRADE THE LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION AT THE CAIRO CONFERENCE. HE INDICATED THE IMPORTANCE OF CLOSE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE UN AND THE US ON THIS MATTER, ASKED WHETHER THE SECRETARY INTENDED TO PARTICIPATE, AND UNDERScoreD HIS CONCERN TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENCE OF ALL PARTIES INCLUDING THOSE NOT ATTENDING THE CAIRO CONFERENCE. SAUNDERS SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO KNOW WHETHER OR WHEN PARTICIPATION WOULD BE UPGRADED. SADAT'S ORIGINAL INVITATION, HE SAID, HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY DIRECTED TO A LOWER LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION. SADAT NOW WANTS BEGIN TO DECLARE ISRAELI READINESS IN PRINCIPLE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE 1967 TERRITORIES AND RESOLVE THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE, AND IF THIS IS OBTAINED AT ISMAILIA OR AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING, HE WOULD THEN CONSIDER PROPOSING NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. AT PRESENT, THE SECRETARY PLANS TO ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT ON HIS EIGHT-DAY TRIP AND AHERTON WILL REMAIN IN CAIRO. FURTHER PLANNING DEPENDS ON THE OUTCOME OF THE SADAT/BEGIN TALKS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 306038

3. AFTER NOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF TRYING TO MOVE TOWARDS AN OVERALL AGREEMENT, WALDHEIM SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF HIS PROPOSAL TO CONVEENE A MEETING OF THE PARTIES AT THE UN OR ANY OTHER VENUE WAS TO FACILITATE JORDANIAN, LEBANESE AND SYRIAN PARTICIPATION IN FUTURE TALKS. WALDHEIM SAID HE BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE SOME KIND OF INTERMEDIATE STAGE BETWEEN CAIRO AND GENEVA. SAUNDERS AGREED, NOTING THAT THE SYRIANS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WERE NOT PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE. WE COULD ONLY CONSIDER THIS MATTER, HOWEVER, AFTER THE ISMAILIA AND CAIRO TALKS ARE CONCLUDED, AND WE SEE WHERE WE ARE IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

4. WALDHEIM SHOWED SAUNDERS AND YOUNG THE LETTER WHICH YEMENI PERMREP PRESENTED TO HIM DECEMBER 16 URGING HIM TO REPEAT HIS PROPOSAL. THE PERMREP HAD MADE CLEAR THAT THIS LETTER WAS INITIATED BY THE SAUDIS DURING THE YEMENI FOREIGN MINISTER'S RECENT TOUR OF THE GULF STATES. WALDHEIM TOLD HIM IT WAS TOO EARLY TO REPEAT THE PROPOSAL BUT THAT HE WOULD KEEP OPEN THE POSSIBILITY AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CAIRO CONFERENCE. WALDHEIM FURTHER SAID THAT MEGUID, BEFORE LEAVING FOR CAIRO, HAD INDICATED THAT IT

PROBABLY WOULD BE NECESSARY AT THE END OF THE CAIRO MEETING TO ANNOUNCE THE CONTINUATION OF TALKS ELSEWHERE, POSSIBLE IN NEW YORK.

5. WALDHEIM SAID THAT HE WAS QUITE PLEASED THAT BEGIN AGREED TO MEET WITH HIM, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF ISRAELI SUSPICIONS ABOUT THE UN. BEGIN HAD TOLD HIM THAT HIS OBJECTION TO WALDHEIM'S PROPOSAL WAS BASED ON THE SYG'S FAILURE TO CONSULT WITH HIM IN ADVANCE RATHER THAN ON ITS MERITS. HE DID NOT REJECT THE IDEA OF A FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE UNDER UN AUSPICES OUTRIGHT. BEGIN WAS PREDICTABLY CRITICAL OF UN DEBATES, BUT APPRECIATIVE OF UN PEACEKEEPING ROLE IN THE AREA. WALDHEIM SAID THAT BEGIN HAD TOLD HIM, IN ANSWERING QUERY ABOUT HIS HEALTH (AS SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 306038

PARAPHRASED BY WALDHEIM), "I HAVE A MISSION TO FULFILL AND THIS KEEPS ME GOING" AND SUBSEQUENTLY ADDED, "SADAT HAS THE SAME FEELING OF MISSION AS I HAVE." WALDHEIM EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT BEGIN COULD BRING THE ISRAELI PUBLIC ALONG TO ACCEPT AN OVERALL AGREEMENT BUT DOUBT AS TO WHETHER BEGIN COULD BRING HIMSELF TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS.

6. IN CONCLUSION, WALDHEIM EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO THE SECRETARY AND TO SAUNDERS FOR BRIEFING HIM ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND ASKED THAT WE REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HIM. SAUNDERS INDICATED THAT WE WOULD DO SO THROUGH AMB YOUNG AND THE MISSION. YOUNG UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PEACE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE306038
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:SVALERGA
Enclosure: REPEATING 77 USUN NEW YORK 5792
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770009-0495
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771219/aaaaapsx.tel
Line Count: 149
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 68720efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 133013
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WALDHEIM/SAUNDERS CONSULTATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST SUMMARY: IN COURSE OF MEETING WITH INR DIRECTOR SAUNDERS AND AMB YOUNG ON DECEMBER 22, UN SYG WALD HEIM REQU
TAGS: PORG, PBOR, PDEV, US, XF, UN, (WALDHEIM, KURT)
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/68720efd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009